

On Top Of The News

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Monday, May 18, 2009



Price of a barrel
of petroleum
today:

US\$ 56.34↓
2.28

INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

GUATEMALA PROTEST



People protest against Guatemala's President Alvaro Colom in Guatemala City, Sunday, May 17, 2009. Protesters demanded Colom resign over accusations that he ordered a lawyer killed. The sign reads in Spanish "Neither rich nor poor, neither family nor friend, simply Guatemalan from the heart."

See INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SPORTS NEWS

SEVENTH HEAVEN



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant reacts after getting fouled against the Houston Rockets in the second half during Game 7 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series in Los Angeles, Sunday, May 17, 2009. The Lakers won 89-70.

See Sports Today

Children with Autism, Downs Syndrome and Cognitive Delays

"Look at Me" art exhibition opens in Mar Azul



(Left) Mar Azul Director / Curator Nelson Gonzalez and Martha Echeverry of CEDES open the "Look at Me" Art Exhibit. (Right) Oranjestad Kunsthuis Foundation President / Mar Azul Art Gallery owner Gilbert Senchi is pictured together with children's art appreciators who joined in the opening festivities of "Look at Me" in the Mar Azul Art Gallery this past Saturday night.

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~

ORANJESTAD – This past Saturday night, May 16, 2009, FICAP foundation and CEDES held a private Art exhibition in the MAR AZUL Art Gallery. The opening of the Gallery with

wonderful pieces of Art made it by talented children with Autism, Down Syndrome and Cognitive Delays. This project was with a cooperation of the kids, parents and the artists



Nelson Gonzalez, Robby ter Haart, and Martha Echeverry.

The exhibition will be opened to the public on Monday 18th till the 20th of May from 1pm till 4 pm to view the art creations from the children. The Mar Azul Art Gallery is located in Downtown Oranjestad in the Marina Mall across from Sr. Frogs.

Continued on Page B10

Balkenende hails Curacao autonomy vote

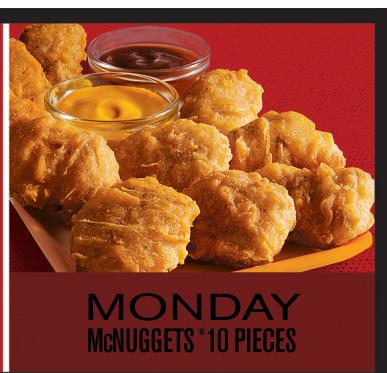


The prime minister, Jan Peter Balkenende, has welcomed the outcome of the referendum held on Curacao backing plans for greater autonomy. Friday's referendum saw 52 percent vote in favour, with 48 percent against plans to make the island an autonomous territory within the Netherlands. Mr Balkenende said the plans now can go ahead. He has congratulated his Antillean counterpart, Emily de Jongh-Elhage, on the result.

The deputy minister for kingdom relations, Ank Bijleveld, voiced both relief over the outcome and concern at the narrow margin, and urged Curacao's parties to overcome their differences. She stressed that the final accord between the Netherlands and Curacao is definitive and no longer open to debate.

The Dutch government has pledged to write off 70 percent of the island's debt - worth almost two billion euros - provided it retains oversight of Curacao's justice and state finances. The Antillean □

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mon area to lounge and relax.

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sive to the owners.

Construction on Oasis at Eagle Beach is moving fast. Fifteen of the thirty five units have already been sold. The condominiums will be ready for occupancy by March 2010. Oasis is located on Eagle Beach which allows for an easy access, even on foot, to the best casinos, restaurants, golf courses, shopping areas and night life the Aruba has to offer.

The experienced sales team of Oasis invites you for a visit to learn about this new gem on the beach.

The site tour will take you up in the complex where you will enjoy spectacular views of the ocean and beach as well as a wonderfull view of Oranjestad where the cruise ships are docked. The views from the rooftop terrace are stunning to say the least. The Oasis sales team is ready to assist you.



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PALM BEACH - Fresher than fresh, is the motto of the popular Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill at De Palm Pier.

Caught in the morning, served at night... That's the Bugaloe way!

Jumbled Chef Marc Henriquez is proudly presenting his rich platter with an 18oz Red Snapper or Grouper, a choice depending on the catch of that day. "Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was just a logical step for me to go crazy with this colorful pallet

of exquisite fish, yellow rice and rich vegetables," Chef Marc says. With a smile he adds "And that just for US\$ 20!"

And right he is, as the platter has been a hit from the start. Served with a bottle of white wine this fish feast is truly a delight on your Monday night.

Bugaloe is located at De Palm Pier in Palm Beach between RIU Palace and Radisson Resort.

OPENING HOURS

Bugaloe Beach Bar and Grill is open daily from 8am till midnight. You may go there for a casual lunch or dinner and on Mondays the special is served from 5:30pm till 10:00pm. Reservations are not needed... just follow the good music, the fun and the smiles on the beach and you will know where Bugaloe is.



SALSA WORKSHOP

Always wanted to learn how to dance Salsa? Well, you will get your chance on Wednesday evening. Reggie and Sabine from ArubaSalsa will show you the moves of Latin

dancing. You will learn how to dance Salsa and Merengue in one hour. The FREE workshop starts at 7:30pm. The popular Salsa live band Grupo Melao will take care of the swinging Latin tunes. Fun guaranteed!

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Wednesday 6-10pm: GRUPO MELAO
Friday 5-8pm: LOTUS
Sunday 6-9pm:
MARISELA & AQUARIUS



BUGALOE

Beach Bar and Grill

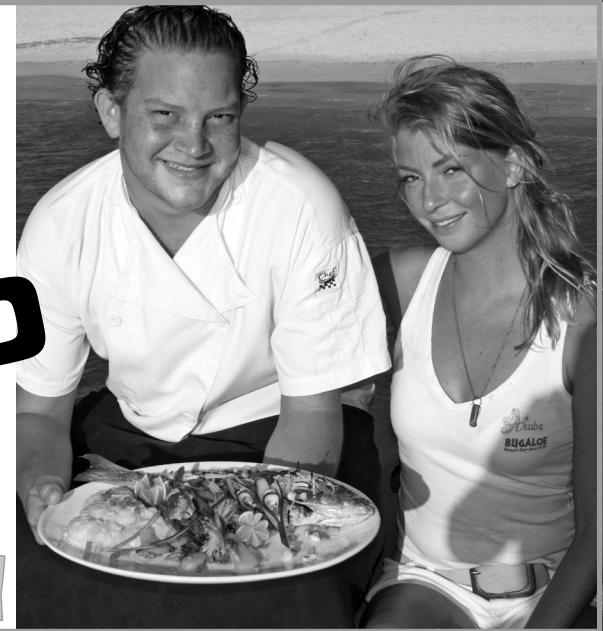
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Marc Anthony is La Cabana's Manager of the First Trimester



EAGLE BEACH – Marc Anthony, a manager in the Accounting Department won the coveted Manager of the First Trimester title at La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club.

His many contributions were acknowledged by General Manager Joe Najjar at a congenial get-together at the Eagle Bowling Palace, Friday during a happy hour celebration.



Marc Anthony took the accounting department to the next level, Najjar reported. With the resort under renovations, Najjar continued to explain, Marc Anthony exercised all the precautions and instituted all the controls required to conserve cash while spending a great deal of money, according to a pre-agreed budget.

"It's just so much easier to make decisions when the financial reports are easily available, and 100% accurate," Najjar stated, "the way they are under Marc Anthony's management."



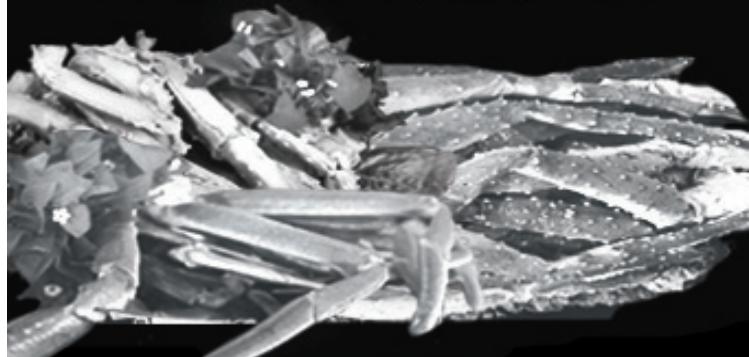
Marc Anthon received an engraved plaque and a customary envelope beside buckets of praise.

The two runner ups Greta de Cuba and Nilda Echobardo were both lauded for their tireless, enthusiastic

performance in their respective departments, and for cheering colleagues up when they stretch themselves.

The ceremony was also attended by some of the resort's visiting board members. □

MONDAY'S CRAB NIGHT



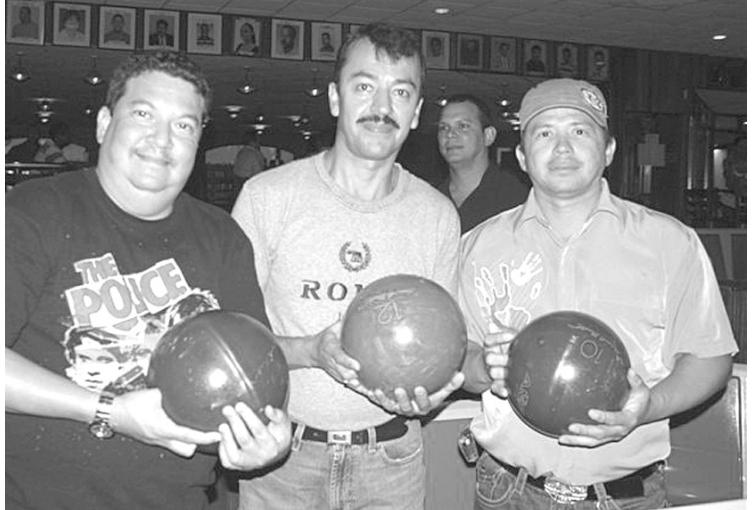
\$ 34.95 per person
+ 15% s.c and 3% Gov. tax

Caesar salad with fresh Caribbean shrimp and Mandarin orange slices
The GIANT crab sampler includes Alaskan king crab legs, snow crab legs, fried soft shell crab, stuffed crab back, Maryland crab cake, lemon, Tartar sauce and drawn butter.



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Thursday May 21st, 2009

Taste of Aruba

Art lecture in the Gallery, 5 p.m.

Best Chef Competition, 7 p.m.

Special dinner will be served

at Pago Pago restaurant prepared by Aruba's
top chefs from The Westin Resort, Aruba,
Papiamento Restaurant, Waterfront Crabhouse,
Las Ramblas, The Flying Fishbone,
Screaming Eagle, and Aqua Grill.

Each chef will prepare a signature course
and pair it with a special wine selection.

An award will be given at the end of the evening
to the chef presenting the "People's Choice" dish.

Tickets at \$85 per person
are available at the concierge desk.

Art exhibition in the gallery featuring local artists.

Friday May 22nd, 2009

Wine & Food Pairing

Exhibition, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Wine Tasting in the Gallery, 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The Wine & Food Pairing in the Grand
Ballroom offers an opportunity for exquisite
food & wine tastings with The Westin Culinary
Team, Aruba Culinary School Students and
invited wineries from around the globe. Music
will be provided by Daniel Aguirre's Jazz band
and the special art exhibit will feature the
island's best artists with works available
for viewing and sale.

The Wine & Food Pairing is open
to the public and the admission is US\$30
per person at the door.

Pre-sale tickets are available at
the concierge desk for \$25 per person.

Saturday May 23rd, 2009

Meet & Mingle with Aruba's
artist community, 5 p.m.

Capturing the Champagne Sparkle,
7 p.m. to midnight

The Final Champagne Event will highlight
dinner with South America's most famous chef,
Colombian-born Harry Sisson Tchira,
sponsored by Moet Chandon and
Dom Perignon, matching the chef's east-west
creations with delectable,
bottomless flutes of Champagne.

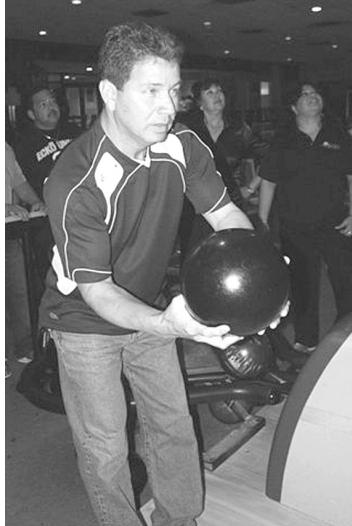
Concert A Tribute to Frank Sinatra with Edjean,
celebrating 15 years in entertainment.

Tickets for a limited number
of participants are available
in the hotel lobby at
the concierge desk
at US\$140 per person.

EAGLE BEACH -- Tessely

Koolman, Director of Human
Resources, La Cabana Beach
and Racquet Club reports that
in honor of the Manager of the
1st Trimester celebration, the
resort hosted a fun Bowling
Tournament at the Eagle
Bowling Palace.

With six ferocious players on
each team, the tournament
was also designed to bring
the managers together after-
hours in a casual relaxed
atmosphere, providing a mix



of sports and stand up comedy
as every stroke, swing and
delivery, provoked rounds of
applause and/or an attack of
belly laughs, as the balls rolled
straight into the gutter.

Pictured here, sticking to their
day time jobs, abandoning
aspirations for careers with
the Professional Bowlers
Association, PBA, the crew of
La Cabana Beach and Racquet
Club, with General Manager
Joe Najjar. □



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Curacao referendum approves increasing autonomy

By ORLANDO CUALES

Associated Press

Curacao's voters narrowly endorsed a plan to gain more political autonomy from the Netherlands as tens of thousands of islanders turned out for a nonbinding referendum Friday.

More than 41,000 voters supported a 2006 pact that granted the Caribbean island more freedom while preserving its ties to the Dutch kingdom. About 38,000 people voted against the plan, according to the elections commission.

"We won. The people decided that the process will continue," said one voter, Ersilia de Lannoy. "We are going to be an autonomous country."

The vote is largely symbolic

because the Netherlands Antilles — comprising Curacao, Bonaire, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten — has been self-governing for 55 years except on matters of defense and foreign policy.

The autonomy arrangement is similar to what the nearby Dutch island of Aruba has had since 1986. But opponents said the close result in the referendum, in which about two-thirds of registered voters participated, meant their voice should be heard.

"You cannot ignore 48 percent," said Charles Cooper, a voter who opposed the autonomy question, referring to the percentage who rejected the plan. "We believe the process has to be stopped."

The opposition criticized the proposal because a \$2.6 billion debt relief deal with the Netherlands would allow the Dutch to supervise the island's future spending habits.

Netherlands Antilles Prime Minister Emily de Jongh-Elhage said the Netherlands offered the relief to help stabilize Curacao when it achieves autonomy, and the fiscal oversight can end in five years.

Many people on Curacao, which is about 40 miles (64 kilometers) off Venezuela's coast, feel their local government contributes more than the other islands to the Antillean government and does not get a fair return. Both Curacao and St. Maarten have sought to

stand on their own, while the three smaller islands say they feel overlooked by the Antillean government based

in Curacao and prefer that the Netherlands administer them directly. □

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PALM BEACH – A group of Argentinean travel professionals staying for a 4-day familiarization trip at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa enjoyed breakfast early one morning in the company of Lily Polsbroek the resort's senior sales manager.

After breakfast at Laguna restaurant they went on a comprehensive tour of the resort visiting Gilligan's Beach Bar, Larimar Spa and the conference facilities.

The resort invited the travel agents in conjunction with Copa Airlines, asking them to take impressions of a carefree much-enjoyed vacation back to their country and promote Aruba and the resort as a tropical holiday destination, in Argentina.

Pictured here the group touring, with Lily Polsbroek and company representative Augusto Toselli. □



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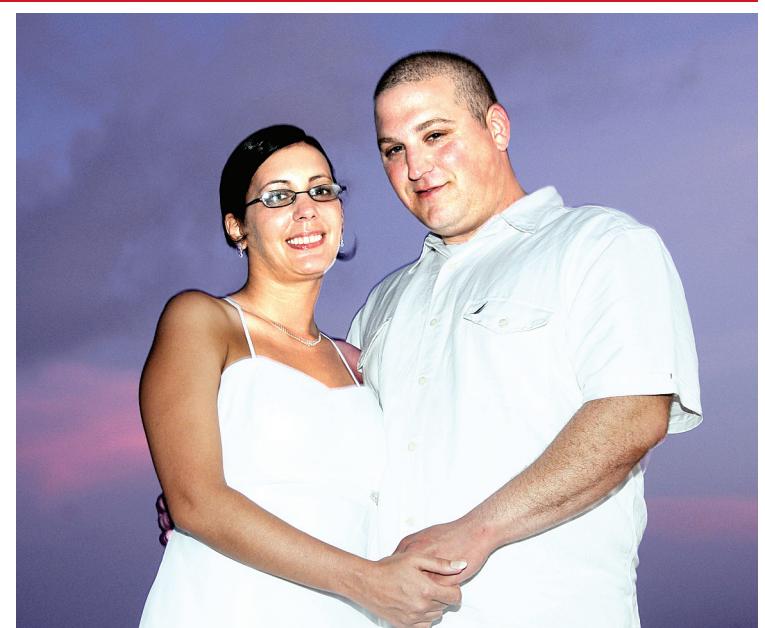
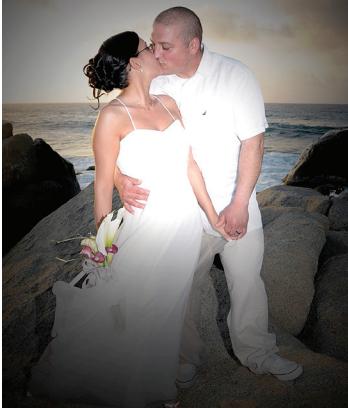
Tina & Anthony wed at sunset



ARASHI- Recently Tina Pratti & Anthony Balistreri of Revere, Massachusetts became one under Aruba's sun. The lovebirds met while

in High School in 1995 and their friendship quickly turned into a forever love. Last year on April 1, 2008 while on vacation in Aruba,

Anthony proposed his love at sunset on the beach to his lovely bride to be. Tina was surprised and couldn't think of any other place to vow



there love. The beach ceremony took place at the lovely Arashi beach with officiate Ruben Trapenburg who delivered a romantic sermon. Tina & Anthony read their vows of love to one another as they looked into each others eyes and said "I Do." Following the ceremony Bella Aruba Photography took the couple on a 'Once in a Lifetime' photo shoot at Aruba's scenic locations. "We love the island and come every year. It's our yearly vacation destination together. This year marks our fifth trip and we now have an anniversary to celebrate in paradise every year." replied the newlyweds. Congratulations from Aruba Today □

Photos by Angela Munzenhofer



“Look at Me” art exhibition opens in Mar Azul



Continued from Front Page
 Foundations FICAP, CEDES y Mar Azul Art Gallery, would like to thank and appreciate the children and parents who are participating in the Exhibition and the sponsors: CEDES Parent Support Group, Lillyputters Speelschool, Aruba Trading Company, Woodbridge y All Drive Car Rental. These foundations were formed by parents whose children

have to navigate carefully through the educational and medical system in order to find the necessary support for their children. These educators are there to assist other parents in Aruba on how best to help their children with Autism, Down Syndrome and Cognitive Delays and

also to create awareness in general. The main goal is to allow parents, care givers, medical doctors, and teachers to recognize signs as early as possible, in order to ensure early intervention, which thus far, is the only treatment for this lifelong disability. □

Photos by Julia Renfro



It's back....!!!

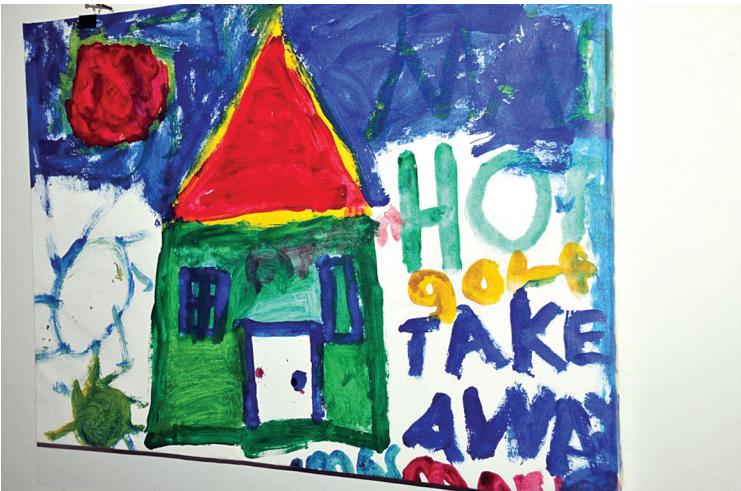
The 10th (!!) Annual Dutch White Asparagus Festival in Madame Janette

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New Construction System Presentation at the Radisson



Palm Beach – Over 150 guests showed up for an open invitation extended to construction companies, architects, engineers, real estate companies and investors, by VIPAP sistema constructivo, VIPAP construction system which promises to lower the cost of construction materials and the cost of construction labor, significantly on the island.



Continued on Next Page

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Ahoy Matey bring this ad in for a free glass of house wine



New Construction System Presentation at the Radisson



Continued from previous Page

The welcome cocktail party in the Grand Caribbean Ballroom was followed by a presentation of Venezuelan architects, assisted by former island resident and Caracas designer Eva Zissu. □



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Aruba TODAY

KEEP ARUBA CLEAN...

THANKS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

The Radisson Associates host a friendly softball tournament



NOORD – The associates' social committee at the

Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa hosted a recent soft ball

tournament in Noord, at the Centro di Bario ball park.

The event featured two teams of resort associates battling it out for fancy trophies and pats on the back.

The competition has been going on for years with Pool & Beach, Engineering, Food & Beverage, Accounting & Housekeeping, doing their best to reclaim the trophy from whoever won it the previous year while playing domino, drinking beer and munching on grilled hotdogs, flipped on the Barbie by members of the



social committee. .

Eddy Pourier, the resort's most famous retiree pitched the first ball, and he did so

with great style reports Marcel Angela, team captain for the accounting. □



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Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort presents The Best View on the Island



PALM BEACH — Director of Sales Christy Garrido, is a happy camper, her office now boasts some of the best ocean views on the island. Paula Smith, Christy's counterpart in Marketing has nothing to complain of either, as her office also shares the same view of the ocean on Palm Beach.

The Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, the latest to come on line is now almost fully open, and the new sales gallery, situated just above Pure Beach has the spectacular residential towers, as backdrops.

The Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort expansion project which included four eight-story buildings, with new rooms, in studios and two and three bedroom configurations, is now a reality, and as the curtain lifts on a collection of restaurants, pools and tropical grounds, the sales gallery is revealed. Pure Beach, a casual café with a European beach club aesthetic, encircled by the waters of the freeform pool retreat, sparked the most excitement.

Overlooking that perfect tableau, the new sales office is perched on top of Pure Beach, affording great ocean views, and a taste of paradise to those touring the property.

Christy and her staff of 27, are headquartered right there.

"Divi understands the need of people to vacation, rest and reconnect with their loved ones," she says, "and with tons of new inventory available for sale at the new Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, we intend to make many people happy."

"It's all part of the makeover of our resort collection," says Managing Director Alex Nieuwmeyer, "with new suites, new restaurants,



golf villas, spas, condos and more, Divi undertook an investment of \$115 million thus far, upgrading facilities and amenities to provide a higher quality vacation



The French Steakhouse delivers an Ooh-La-La experience



EAGLE BEACH – The French Steakhouse at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa just added another charming dining option, a tropical outdoor courtyard, featuring delicious cuisine under the stars.

The famed French Steakhouse prides itself on the elegant dining experience it offers patrons in the fully air-conditioned dining room. Yet recently the idea of adding a garden spot to the existing blueprint began to sprout in the creative mind of Executive Chef George Hoek,

and he immediately recruited the landscapers to create the intimate, lovely setting.

The French Steakhouse Ooh-La-La menu is now served indoor and alfresco, featuring creative appetizers, soups, salads, seafood dishes, poultry and the Pièce de Résistance South American & USDA Beef specialties.

Among popular appetizers the chef's Tropical Crab Cakes with pineapple & mango salsa and the Teriyaki Glazed Seared Duck Breast, served with garden

greens and balsamic dressing are real crowd pleasers.

True to the restaurant's French roots, the Onion Soup is a classic, while the Honey Glazed Salmon Salad winks at the exotic East with a sweet soy dressing.

The menu features a great variety of seafood dishes from fresh fish to the totally sinful and amazingly-decadent Caribbean Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat and Bacon, which became an instant hit. The tequila and sweet chili glaze, lends the Jumbo shrimp a pure taste of heaven!

The French Steakhouse is naturally famous for the South American Churrasco steak, a signature preparation, which now shares the stage with juicy USDA beef specialties such as NY Sirloin and Filet Mignon. Light-eaters will find the Jerk Chicken Skewers and the Lemon Herb Broilers very



satisfying.

Open seven days a week from 5:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. the French Steakhouse is blessed with the nicest staff and a delightfully renovated dining room with sparkling China, crisp linen, an interesting bread basket, colossal desserts and live jazz on piano with Eddy Samson who is Aruba's best

entertainer, and a walking & breathing music encyclopedia, just whistle the tune, and Eddy will produce a symphonic version of you favorite song. Hungry patrons will appreciate the Ambassador's 5-course menu featuring the run of the menu highlights for just \$34.95 per person. www.manchebo.com.steakhouse □

Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar reinvents Beach Cuisine



and his culinary team serve a Sun Splashed menu on the ocean front terrace, raising the bar to a must-visit, must-try status.

The contemporary menu, lists many favorite dishes from around the world, borrowing inspiration from US, Mexican, Thai, Jamaican, Cuban, Greek and Mediterranean kitchens, all served with a tropical, Caribbean flair.

From Sun-Sational Salads, to Cuban pressed jawbreakers and wraps, mid-day platters also include oversize Beef Burgers, Philly Cheese Steak Sandwiches and Hot Dogs.

The Pega Pega tropical & frozen cocktail list, with fresh fruit or ice cream smoothies, daiquiris, coladas and margaritas, leaves nothing out, including Yellow Birds, Sex on the Beach and Mudslides, making a lunchtime brain-freeze, extremely easy to get!

The Pega Pega, one of Aruba's oldest beach bars is open on fabulous Eagle Beach, with unrivaled views, caring, gracious service, and relaxed atmosphere, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The bar opens at 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. □

EAGLE BEACH – Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar at the Manchebo Beach Resort &

Spa deserves recognition as the home of Beach Cuisine. Executive Chef George Hoek



Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano introduces Menu Turistico



Eagle Beach -- Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano located at the heart of the low-rise hotels at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, delivers authentic Mediterranean flavors, at a reasonable price. The restaurant has just introduced Menu Turistico a three-course dinner featuring appetizers, main courses and desserts for just \$19.95, per person, plus 15% service charge.

Patrons may choose between home made soup and Caesar salad, Fettuccini Alfredo, Lasagna Casareccia, Spaghetti alla Bolognese or any favorite pizza with Tiramisu, Cheese Cake or Ice Cream for the sweet finale.

Posing with Angelo the Italian maitre D' at Giorgio's, Mr and Mrs. Klaus, from Pennsylvania, 2nd time repeaters in Aruba at the Manchebo, the trip was a birthday present from him to her and since they are celebrating their 40th anniversary in November, they are already thinking about coming back, they enjoyed Menu Turistico and recommend it wholeheartedly! □

“Aruhiba” Aruba’s homemade cigar



ORANJESTAD - Benjamin Petrochi has started the newest

export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called ‘Aruhiba’. These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrochi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold cigars from outside, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of “Aruhiba” cigars in Aruba. The process took 5 years Petrochi’s dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and



process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar case is specially designed for the cigars with the logo ‘Aruhiba’ and ‘Made in Aruba’. Petrochi considers ‘Aruhiba’ a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells international cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and get 1 free for \$35.00. Located at the Historic Dutch



Windmill from 9am to 8pm. Open on Sunday. And also at Tamarijn: open 9am - 5pm and Sunday from 9am to 1pm.

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At the Crystal Theater

“Havana Dance,” is the hottest Cuban show on the island



ORANJESTAD - The elegant Crystal Theater sparkles with all the excitement of Las Vegas as the magnificent “Havana

Dance” explodes on stage with a thrilling mix of Latin & Cuban music, colorful costumes and high energy, contemporary Cuban

dance.

“Havana Dance” is the biggest stage production in the Caribbean, featuring Cuban dancers and entertainers directly from Havana. The show delivers a purely Cuban spectacle, with a cast of 12 female ballerinas, 4 male dancers, 2 singers and 3 acrobats, performing a fresh program accompanied by live Cuban music performed on stage by a genuine Cuban orchestra, consisting of 5 professional Cuban musicians. This live dance AND live music combination as seen in our pictures, is ‘first of its kind’ on the island.

While the greater part of the “Havana Dance” review enjoys predominantly Cuban flavor, the show is graced with a truly unique Caribbean choreography, and many tropical touches. “Havana Dance” unfolds on a two-tiered stage, with entrances and exits to and off the arena at different heights, which presents a



new visual concept. The custom-designed costumes are sensual, daring, colorful, and luxurious and set “Havana Dance” apart from any other cabaret.

Producer Steve Hudson who enjoyed an unprecedently-successful seven-year run with his previous “Let’s Go Latin” review, conceived and created an exciting and much-evolved new must-see spectacle.

Tickets for “Havana Dance” are US\$ 49.- Children under 12 pay US\$25.-

Tickets are available at the theater box office, Renaissance Aruba Resort, and can also be purchased

at the concierge’s desk at the Renaissance Aruba Resort. Other ticket vendors include the De Palm Tours and Pelican Adventure Activity Centers at the resorts. A special dinner & show package is also available in conjunction with the L.G. Smith’s Steak & Chop House for US\$89.- per person.

For additional information and reservations call the Crystal Theatre at Tel.: 583 6000, ext. 6115, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. After 5 p.m., call tel.: 583 6000 ext. 6357. Don’t miss an opportunity to be greatly entertained by the sizzle of “Havana Dance.” □





President Barack Obama is hooded as he receives an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Laws during commencement ceremonies at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., campus Sunday, May 17, 2009. Hooding President Obama is University Registrar Harold Pace, left, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees Richard C. Notebaert.

Associated Press

Obama calls for understanding in Notre Dame speech

JULIE PACE

Associated Press Writer

SOUTH BEND, Indiana (AP) — President Barack Obama strode head-on Sunday into the stormy abortion debate and told graduates at America's leading Roman Catholic university that both sides must stop demonizing one another.

Obama acknowledged that "no matter how much we want to fudge it ... the fact is that at some level, the views of the two camps are irreconcilable." But he still implored the University of Notre Dame's graduating class and all in the U.S. to stop "reducing those with differing views to caricature. Open hearts. Open minds. Fair-minded words. It's a way of life that always has been the Notre Dame tradition."

One of the noisiest controversies of his young presidency flared after Obama, who supports abortion rights but says the procedure should be rare, was invited to speak at the school and receive an honorary degree. "I do not suggest that the debate surrounding abortion can or should go away," the president said.

The Rev. John Jenkins, Notre Dame's president, introduced Obama and praised the president for not being "someone who stops talking to those who disagree with him." Jenkins said too little attention has been paid to Obama's decision to speak at an institution that opposes his abortion policy.

Ahead of Obama's speech, at least 27 people were arrested on trespassing charges from

protests outside the university, police said. They included Norma McCorvey, the plaintiff identified as "Roe" in the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. She now opposes abortion and joined more than 300 anti-abortion demonstrators at the school's front gate.

More than half held signs, some declaring "Shame on Notre Dame" and "Stop Abortion Now" to express their anger over Notre Dame's invitation to Obama, saying the university had lost touch with its Catholic roots.

On campus, Obama entered the arena to thunderous applause and a standing ovation from many in the crowd of 12,000. But as the president began his commencement address, at least three protesters interrupted it. One yelled, "Stop killing our children."

The graduates responded by chanting "Yes we can", the slogan that became synonymous with Obama's presidential campaign. Obama seemed unfazed, saying Americans must be able to deal with things that make them "uncomfortable." The president ceded no ground on abortion. But he said those on each side of the debate "can still agree that this is a heart-wrenching decision for any woman to make, with both moral and spiritual dimensions."

"So let's work together to reduce the number of women seeking abortions by reducing unintended pregnancies, and making adoption more available, and providing care and support for women who do carry their child to term."

Continued on Next Page

WTC emergency drill evokes memories of Sept. 11



First responders walk through an underground train tunnel during a drill in New York, Sunday, May 17, 2009. The drill simulated an explosion on a commuter train in an underground tunnel and involved more than 800 first responders.

Associated Press

KAREN MATTHEWS

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It was an emergency drill, yet the scene of hundreds of firefighters, police officers and other first responders hustling around the World Trade Center site Sunday evoked the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Continued on Page B5



A Sri Lankan army officer offers milk rice, a delicacy meant for special occasions, to a police officer as they celebrate after President Mahinda Rajapaksa declared victory in the country's quarter-century civil war with the separatist rebels in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Sunday, May 17, 2009. The last remaining civilians trapped by the fighting in northern Sri Lanka poured out of the war zone Sunday, clearing the way for government forces to wipe out the remaining pockets of rebel resistance, the military said.

Associated Press

Tamil Tigers conceded defeat in civil war

BHARATHA MALLWARACHI

Associated Press Writers

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — The Tamil Tigers are admitting defeat in their fierce quarter-century war for a separate homeland as government forces race to clear the last pockets of rebel resistance from the war zone in the north.

Continued on Page B8



A protester is escorted out as he heckles President Barack Obama as he delivers the commencement speech during the 2009 graduation ceremony at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. Sunday, May 17, 2009.

NOTRE DAME

Continued from Page B1

He said he favored "a sensible conscience clause" that would give anti-abortion health care providers the right to refuse to perform the procedure.

Before taking on the abortion issue, Obama told graduates they were part of a "generation that must find a path back to prosperity and decide how we respond to a global economy

that left millions behind even before this crisis hit an economy where greed and short-term thinking were too often rewarded at the expense of fairness, and diligence, and an honest day's work."

Obama supports abortion rights but says the procedure should be rare. The Catholic Church and many other Christian denominations hold that abortion and the use of

embryos for stem cell research amount to the destruction of human life and are morally wrong and should be banned by law.

The contrary argument holds that women have the right to terminate a pregnancy and that unused embryos created outside the womb for couples who cannot otherwise conceive should be available for stem cell research. Such research

Associated Press

holds the promise of finding treatments for debilitating ailments.

Within weeks of taking office in January, Obama eased an executive order by President George W. Bush that limited research to a small number of stem-cell strains.

Obama's appearance appeared additionally complicated by fresh polls that show Americans' attitudes on the issue have shifted toward the anti-abortion position.

A Gallup survey released Friday found that 51 percent of those questioned call themselves "pro-life" on the issue of abortion and 42 percent "pro-choice," or supporting abortion rights. This is the first time a majority of U.S. adults have identified themselves as "pro-life" since Gallup began asking this question in 1995.

Just a year ago, Gallup found that 50 percent termed themselves "pro-choice" while 44 percent described their beliefs as "pro-life."

A Pew Research Center survey found public opinion about abortion more closely divided than it has been in several years.

Pew said its latest polling

found that 28 percent said abortion should be legal in most cases while 18 percent said all cases. Forty-four percent of those surveyed were opposed to abortion in most or all cases.

Gallup said shifting opinions lay almost entirely with Republicans or independents who lean Republican, with opposition among those groups rising over the past year from 60 percent to 70 percent.

The abortion issue also is front and center as Obama considers potential nominees to fill the vacancy left by the retirement this summer of Justice David Souter. Abortion opponents are determined to see Roe v. Wade overturned, but only four court justices out of nine have backed that position. Souter has opposed arguments for overturning the ruling.

On the Notre Dame campus, members of an abortion rights group also protested while a plane pulling an anti-abortion banner circled above. Tara Makowski of Seattle, who received a master's degree Saturday from the school, said she was dismayed by the way Notre Dame was being characterized.

"Seeing us being portrayed nationally as radical conservative has been really tough," she said. "People need to realize that the majority of students and faculty" favored Obama's visit.

But Bishop John D'Arcy, whose diocese includes Notre Dame, planned to skip Sunday's commencement. He attended an open-air Mass and rally. He said he wanted to support the students protesting Obama's speech.

"All of you are heroes, and I'm proud to stand with you," he said. Obama was the ninth president to receive an honorary degree from Notre Dame and sixth sitting president to address graduates. Other commencement speakers have included Dwight Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush.

Back in Washington, Vice President Joe Biden attended Mass with his family at Holy Trinity Church, where a granddaughter received her first Communion. □



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Asst. principal is first NYC swine flu death

KAREN MATTHEWS
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A school assistant principal who was sick for several days with swine flu on Sunday became the city's first death linked to the virus.

Mitchell Wiener, who had worked at an intermediate school in Queens, died Sunday evening, Flushing Hospital Medical Center spokesman Andrew Rubin said.

Wiener had been sick for nearly a week before his school was closed on Thursday. He had

been hospitalized and on a ventilator.

The city's first outbreak of swine flu occurred three weeks ago, when about 700 students and 300 other people associated with a Catholic high school in Queens began falling ill following the return of several students from vacations in Mexico, the epicenter of the outbreak.

Five more city schools will close Monday because of concern for swine flu, bringing the total to 11.

City health officials

announced Sunday that four Queens public schools and one Catholic school would close Monday for up to five school days. Three of the public schools are in the same building.

Each school had students with flu-like illness last week.

There were no documented cases of swine flu, or the H1N1 virus, at any of the schools, said Jessica Scaperotti, a spokeswoman for the city Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

The department is monitoring



In this May 15, 2009 file photo, Anita Seeratan, 13, an 8th grader at the Susan B. Anthony middle school, holds up a copy of the 2005 yearbook open to the page with the photograph of assistant Principal Mitchell Wiener, in New York. A hospital official said Sunday May 17, 2009 that Mitchell Wiener has become the first New York City death linked to the swine flu virus.

Associated Press

unusual clusters of flu cases as it works to stop the spread of the swine flu virus, she said.

Six schools were closed last week after hundreds of students

U.S. boy abducted to Mexico back home with family



This picture provided by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department on Saturday, May 16, 2009 shows Briant Rodriguez and his mother, Maria Rosalina Millan in Calexico, Calif. The 3-year-old boy abducted from his family home in San Bernardino nearly two weeks ago by two armed men was reunited with his mother Saturday, May 16, 2009 after police found him wandering a Mexican border town's streets, sheriff's officials said.

Associated Press

overnight for a physical and emotional evaluation.

"Physically, he's in good shape. He was obviously fatigued," Cindy Beavers, a spokeswoman for the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, told The Associated Press.

"I'm sure there is some trauma from being apart from his family for two weeks," Beavers added, calling the

GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press Writer

SAN BERNARDINO, California (AP) — The 3-year-old boy abducted from his family by gunmen almost two weeks ago was back at his home Sunday, apparently fine after being found wandering the streets of a Mexican border town alone.

Briant Rodriguez rejoined his family after being hospitalized



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Republicans: Obama may have to wait to close Gitmo



In this photo taken Wednesday, May 13, 2009 and reviewed by the U.S. military, the sun rises over the Guantanamo detention facility at dawn, at the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba. President Barack Obama says he is restarting U.S. military tribunals for the small number of terrorist suspects among all the detainees held at Guantanamo, though with several new legal protections for defendants.

DOUGLASS K. DANIEL

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican lawmakers said Sunday they expect President Barack Obama to extend his "arbitrary" January deadline for closing the Guantanamo

military prison as he finds it difficult to relocate the suspected terrorists held there.

"The president made a mistake by picking a date certain," Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said.

Associated Press

"He's changed his mind about a number of things. This is one, I think, that requires an adjustment in his position." Officials say there are 241 detainees at the U.S. military base on Cuba. Obama said last week that military trials would hear charges against those accused of assisting in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and other acts of terrorism.

Under his administration's plan, most of the prisoners will be released, sent to other countries, tried in civilian courts in the U.S. or held indefinitely as prisoners of war. The president said the detainees would have

stronger legal protections than were offered under the Bush administration's military commissions.

Bills that would prove \$50 million to shutter the facility link the money to a detailed plan for dealing with the detainees. Democratic and Republican lawmakers have spoken against bringing any detainees to the U.S.

"It's the perfect place for them," said McConnell, who favors keeping Guantanamo open. "There's no reason in the world to bring these people to the United States. I don't think there's a community in America that's going to be interested in taking them."

Rep. Peter King, the top Republican on the House Homeland Security Committee, said he expects Obama to reverse himself on the closing goal.

"They should stay in Guantanamo until the president finds out where they should go," said King. "I think he's going to keep it open at least until he can find out where they can go. President (George W.) Bush wanted to close it. President Obama wants it closed, but he made a mistake by setting an arbitrary deadline."

Sen. Jim Webb, a Democrat, said he opposed bringing any detainees to his home state Virginia or elsewhere in the U.S. That includes 17 Chinese Muslims, known as Uighurs, who had received terrorist training from al-Qaida. The

government has cleared the Uighurs for release but does not want to send them to China for fear that they will be tortured for their activities there.

Webb said Guantanamo should be closed only after it has been used to process the detainees.

"We should close down Guantanamo at the right time," he said. "Let's process them the right rules of law, the right due process, within the constraints of how we have to handle these cases, with military intelligence and that sort of thing, but the facility is there at Guantanamo to do it. And then close it down."

Sen. Jon Kyl, a Republican, said the remaining detainees at Guantanamo pose a danger and cannot be released easily. He agreed with Obama's decision to resume military commissions.

"The president has made some changes in the military commissions to give these people some additional rights, and perhaps that helps to balance the situation," Kyl said. "This would liberalize it to some extent. We'll have to wait and see whether it liberalizes it so much that they don't work any more. But I'm happy to see how they work out."

McConnell appeared on "Fox News Sunday" while King spoke on CBS television's "Face the Nation." Webb and Kyl appeared on ABC's "This Week." □



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WTC

Continued from Page B1

Firefighters carried oxygen tanks, hoses and heavy axes into an underground train station, while police and other emergency personnel helped those playing injured — all part of a large disaster response exercise at ground zero.

More than 800 first responders participated in Sunday's mock terrorist attack, which simulated an explosion on a New Jersey-bound PATH commuter train in a tunnel. The police, firefighters and other emergency personnel joined about 150 volunteers, who posed as injured passengers smudged with grime and fake blood.

The hundreds of first responders represented the largest police and firefighter presence at the trade center site since the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001. The purpose of the drill was to improve interagency cooperation in the event of a real disaster.

"The motto for today is: You can never be too prepared," said Chris Ward, executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which runs area transit hubs and owns the trade center site. "We will evaluate how well we did prepare, how well we performed, find wherever we did make mistakes and how we can improve."

The two-hour drill recalled the July 7, 2005, bombings on the London subway system more than the 2001 attack on the twin towers.

In the drill, two bombs went off at 8:01 a.m. EDT on a train in the tunnel between Manhattan and New Jersey.

"Smoke filled the tunnel, and we had some 700 to 800 passengers on this train," said Joseph Bruno, New York City's commissioner of emergency management.

PATH service was suspended during the exercise, and streets around the trade center site were blocked off.

Participating agencies included New York City's police and fire departments and its Office of Emergency

Management and Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, as well as the police department of the Port Authority, which operates the PATH trains.

"The main thing we're trying to evaluate is the ability of all these agencies to work together," Bruno said.

Poor communication and jurisdictional infighting between the police and fire departments impeded rescue efforts when the twin towers were struck in 2001, and Bruno said he was confident that the departments are better at working together now.

"I think we are at a totally different place than we were at the time of that incident, and that's good," he said.

Firefighters went into the PATH tunnel to extinguish fires caused by the drill's explosions and to rescue passengers. There were 10 fake fatalities. Most of the injured passengers were able to walk out of the station, but about 20 were carried out on red stretchers.

Chief Joseph Pfeifer, head of counterterrorism for the Fire Department of New York, said firefighters used lightweight aluminum carts that fit onto train tracks to transport the most severely injured.

He said the carts were developed after the 2005 London bombings because "it's very labor intensive to carry someone out."

Other drills staged since the 2001 terror attacks in New York City have included a simulated response to a hazardous chemical spill and an explosion on an Amtrak train at Penn Station.

"If we're going to make mistakes we want to make them here, we want to learn from them, we want to build them into our plans, so when there is a real situation we respond appropriately and all the kinks in the system have been worked out," said Deputy Mayor Ed Skyler.

Richard Falkenrath, the police department's deputy commissioner for counterterrorism, added, "It's an important thing to be doing, and we will learn a lot of lessons from it I have no doubt."

Officials bought television ads and plastered train stations with posters to warn downtown Manhattan residents of the drill. The warnings for those in the area came after a Department of Defense-arranged flyover by a jet above downtown Manhattan



Emergency responders participate in a drill in New York, Sunday, May 17, 2009. The drill simulated an explosion on a commuter train in an underground tunnel and involved more than 800 first responders.

Associated Press

last month panicked thousands of Wall Street workers and residents. Bruno said the flyover "pointed out the need for people to know as much as possible." □

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Thousands protest to demand Guatemalan leader to resign

JUAN CARLOS LLORCA

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)

— Thousands of Guatemalans protested Sunday to demand the president resign over accusations that he ordered a lawyer killed, a scandal threatening the rule of the country's first leftist leader more than 50 years.

Supporters of President Alvaro Colom staged a counter-demonstration. Many were farmers and workers who have benefited from his social programs.

Colom denies Rodrigo Rosenberg's allegations, which were broadcast posthumously after the attorney was shot to death a week ago. He has dismissed calls for his resignation and asked the FBI and a U.N. panel to investigate the killing.

"Get out! Get out!" protesters chanted at the headquarters of the Guatemala City government. Dressed in white, many were from the middle and upper classes that make up the bulk of opposition to Colom.

"This is a civic movement of Guatemalans who are seeking

peace. We are tired of violence, ineptitude and corruption in Guatemala," said Jorge Briz, the president of the country's chamber of commerce.

At the plaza in front of his offices, Guatemala City Mayor Alvaro Arzu lowered the Guatemalan flag to half-staff and raised a black flag to mourn Rosenberg.

Protesters said they collected more than 25,000 signatures for a petition to demand that Congress strip Colom of his immunity from prosecution.

The demonstrators canceled a 15-block march to the National Palace to avoid colliding with the thousands of Colom supporters who filled the nearby Constitution Plaza and spilled over into the surrounding streets.

"He's staying! He's staying! The president is staying!" the Colom backers chanted. Many were from the impoverished countryside that has been a stronghold of support for the embattled leader.

"He's with the poor," said Juan Gonzalez, who traveled to the capital from rural Guatemala. A recording distributed at

Rosenberg's funeral showed him blaming his death on the president, first lady Sandra Torres and Cabinet chief Gustavo Alejos, who also proclaim their innocence.

Torres has also been at the center of corruption allegations against the Social Cohesion Cabinet, the backbone of Colom's social programs, including direct payments to rural families for sending their children to school and food rations for urban slum dwellers. She denies the allegations. □



Protesters hold a poster depicting Guatemala's President Alvaro Colom in the likeness of a Mara gang member at a demonstration in Guatemala City, Sunday, May 17, 2009. Protesters demanded Colom resign over accusations that he ordered a lawyer killed. The poster reads in Spanish "Assassin."

Associated Press

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Sri Lankans display the national flags and celebrate after President Mahinda Rajapaksa declared victory in the country's quarter-century civil war with the separatist rebels, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Sunday, May 17, 2009. The last remaining civilians trapped by the fighting in northern Sri Lanka poured out of the war zone Sunday, clearing the way for government forces to wipe out the remaining pockets of rebel resistance, the military said.

TAMIL TIGERS

Continued from Page B1

Far from the battlefield, thousands of Sri Lankans danced Sunday in the streets of Colombo, celebrating the stunning collapse of one of the world's most sophisticated insurgencies. But with rebel leader Velupillai Prabhakaran still at large, the threat of renewed guerrilla warfare

Associated Press

remained.

Several rebel fighters committed suicide when they were surrounded, but it wasn't clear whether Prabhakaran or other leaders were among them. The Tamil Tigers once controlled a shadow state complete with courts, police and a tax system across a wide swath of the north. By Sunday, government troops

had surrounded the remaining rebels in a 0.4-square-mile patch of land and were fighting off suicide bombs and other attacks, the military said. Huge clouds of black smoke rose over the battlefield as soldiers inspected the charred remains of rebel trucks and heavy artillery pieces, according to footage broadcast on state television. Civilians carrying backpacks and rolling suitcases were escorted from the area.

Military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara said the civilians who had been trapped in the war zone — 63,000 in all — fled to safety during the past 72 hours. But rebel official Selvarasa Pathmanathan said the bodies of thousands of wounded and slain civilians lay strewn across the war zone. "This battle has reached its bitter end," Pathmanathan said in a statement e-mailed to The Associated Press. "It is our people who are dying now from bombs, shells, illness and hunger. We cannot permit any

more harm to befall them. We remain with one last choice — to remove the last weak excuse of the enemy for killing our people. We have decided to silence our guns."

Media Minister Anura Yapa dismissed the appeal. "We want to free this country from the terrorist LTTE," he said, referring to the group by its formal name, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

The military spokesman denied the rebels had laid down their weapons. "Fighting is still going on in small pockets," Nanayakkara said.

Rights groups have accused the rebels of holding civilians as human shields, and blamed the government for shelling the densely populated area where they sought refuge. Both sides denied the accusations.

With most journalists and aid workers barred from the war zone, it was not possible to verify the accounts of either side. Health officials in the area have said thousands of civilians were killed in shelling since the beginning

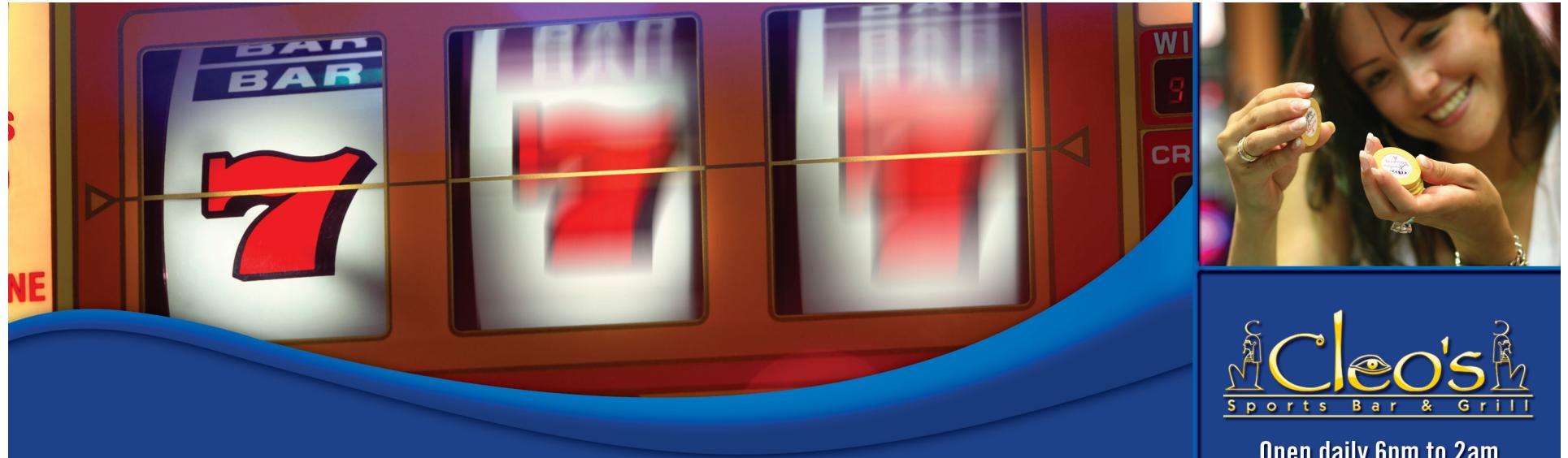
of the year.

The rebels have been fighting since 1983 for a separate state for Sri Lanka's ethnic Tamil minority after years of marginalization at the hands of the Sinhalese majority. More than 70,000 people have been killed in the fighting.

President Mahinda Rajapaksa has said that after defeating the rebels, his government will begin talks toward power sharing and political reconciliation between the two communities. But many Tamils are skeptical that the victorious government will be willing to make real concessions.

At their height, the rebels controlled 5,400 square miles, nearly one-fifth of this Indian Ocean island nation.

They had a conventional army complete with artillery batteries, a large navy and even a nascent air force, funded by an estimated \$200 million to \$300 million a year they made from smuggling, fraud and appeals to Tamil expatriates. □



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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

NBA Playoffs

Real Lakers show up, rout Rockets 89-70 in Game 7

By BERNIE WILSON

AP Sports Writer

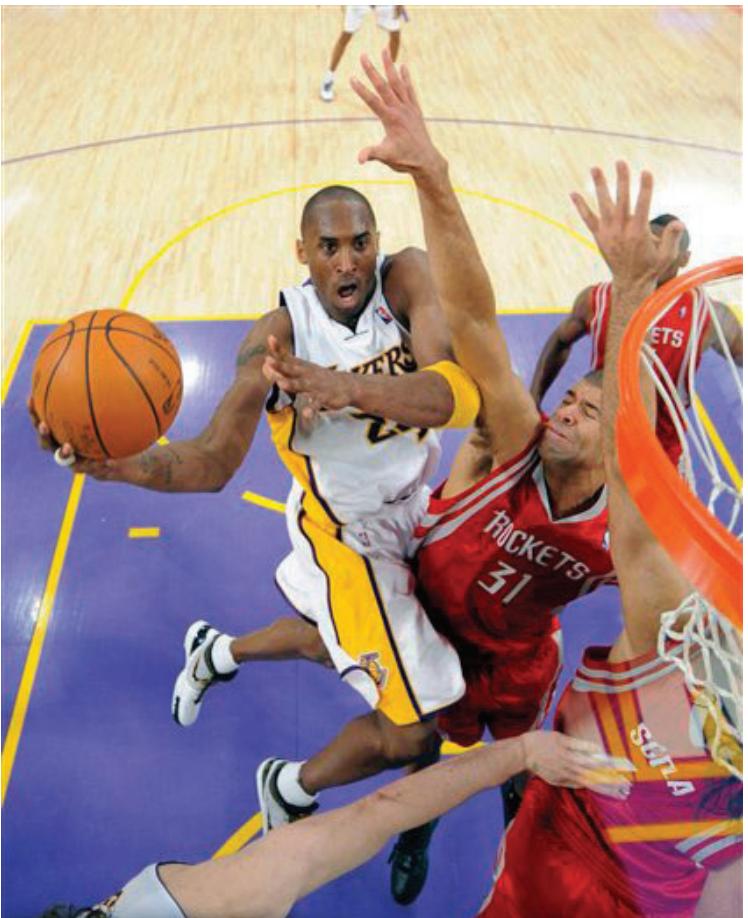
LOS ANGELES – All is well again in La-La Land. The real Los Angeles Lakers showed up, and in a Game 7, no less. With Pau Gasol dominating on both ends of the court, the Lakers emphatically silenced the doubters and the Houston Rockets, winning the decisive final game of the Western Conference semifinals 89-70 on Sunday.

Playing with emotion, Gasol scored 21 points and grabbed 18 rebounds.

The Lakers looked like the conference's top-seeded team, not the maddeningly inconsistent one that was pushed to the limit by the undermanned, smaller Rockets.

Trying to reach the NBA finals for the second straight year, the Lakers host the opener of the conference finals against the Denver Nuggets on Tuesday night.

The Lakers have been so



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, left, puts up a shot as Houston Rockets forward Shane Battier defends during the first half of Game 7 of an NBA Western conference playoff basketball series, Sunday, May 17, 2009, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press



Chicago Blackhawks goalie Nikolai Khabibulin (39), of Russia, looks back as Detroit Red Wings winger Dan Cleary's shot bounces off the post for a goal during the third period of Game 1 of the NHL hockey Western Conference finals in Detroit, Sunday, May 17, 2009.

By LARRY LAGE

AP Sports Writer

DETROIT – Dan Cleary scored twice against the team that drafted him, leading the Detroit Red Wings to a 5-2 win over the Chicago Blackhawks in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals on Sunday.

Associated Press

Cleary's second goal came midway through the third period, 1:27 after Mikael Samuelsson's go-ahead score, for the defending Stanley Cup champions.

Detroit's Chris Osgood made 30 saves, and Nikolai Khabibulin stopped 38 shots

up and down in this series that coach Phil Jackson said before Game 5 that they had a little bit of Jekyll and Hyde in them. That was the night the Lakers raced to a 40-point win at home, only to follow it up two nights later with a 15-point loss, the second straight game they were blind-sided in Houston.

There are any number of theories as to why the Lakers have had a split personality. Asked what the Lakers learned from this series, Kobe Bryant cracked: "That we're bipolar."

Added Lamar Odom: "To make it interesting. It's Hollywood, you know."

It turns out that home-court advantage and a smothering defense were all it took to jump-start the Lakers, who made sure they didn't choke this one away against the No. 5 seed.

The Lakers dominated the paint on both ends, forcing the Rockets into turnovers

and bad shots. The owned the backboards, taking a 55-33 advantage, and blocked 10 shots. They had an 8-0 lead a few minutes in and widened it to 25 points on Gasol's jump hook shortly before halftime. After the game, Bryant patted Gasol on the shoulder and offered words of congratulations.

"I was just proud of the way he played," Bryant said. "He answered the challenge and he played like one of the best players in the world. I was just excited for him."

Gasol kept Rockets point guard Aaron Brooks from penetrating, as he did often in this series. The Spaniard had 12 defensive rebounds and swatted away three shots.

"We all know what he can do offensively. I just felt like defensively, he had a superb game," Bryant said.

Gasol made 10 of 19 shots. He left to a nice ovation with 3:34 remaining in the game.

Continued on Page B12

NHL Playoffs

Red Wings beat Blackhawks 5-2

for the Blackhawks, who gave up an empty-net goal to Henrik Zetterberg.

Adam Burish gave the Blackhawks a 1-0 lead 5:25 in, but Cleary tied it a few minutes later and Johan Franzen put Detroit in front 2-1 late in the second period.

Game 2 is Tuesday night in Detroit.

Cleary was drafted 13th overall by the Blackhawks in 1997, but had just nine points in 41 games before being traded to Edmonton. He signed with the Red Wings in 2005 after the NHL lockout. After one

lackluster season for the Red Wings, he had 40 points each of the last three seasons.

In the previous round against Anaheim, Cleary scored the series-winning goal with 3 minutes left in Game 7 and has netted a career-high five goals this postseason.

Detroit and Chicago, both in their 83rd NHL season, are meeting for the 15th time in the playoffs with the Blackhawks holding an 8-6 advantage.

The franchises have played a league-record 703 times in the regular season, including this year's Winter Classic in which

Detroit beat Chicago 6-3 at Wrigley Field.

Chicago, playing in its first conference final since 1995 against a team in its third straight, was very competitive with the Red Wings until Detroit broke it open in the final period.

The fourth-seeded Blackhawks fell behind in each of its six games the previous round against Vancouver, but found out it is not as easy to rally against the second-seeded and playoff-tested Red Wings.

Detroit improved to 7-0 when leading after two periods. □

Aruba TODAY

KEEP ARUBA CLEAN...



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Johnson repeats as Texas Open champion in playoff

PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Zach Johnson successfully defended his Texas Open title Sunday, winning a sudden-death playoff with an unlikely contender.

Seven months after his first victory at La Cantera Golf Club, Johnson beat James Driscoll with a 10-foot birdie putt on the first extra hole after a final-round shootout in which seven players stood within a stroke of the lead with four holes left.

"I feel very lucky," said Johnson, who followed his third-round 60 with a 70. The 2007 Masters champion earned \$1,098,000 for his sixth career PGA Tour victory.

Driscoll, eight strokes behind at the start of the round, shot a 62 to match Johnson at 15-under 265 after four rounds. The win vaulted Johnson to the top of the FedEx Cup standings, passing Geoff Ogilvy and Phil Mickelson — the only other two-time winners on the PGA Tour this season.

Johnson also won the Sony Open in January.

Paul Goydos had a one-stroke lead with two holes to play, but closed with two bogeys for a 69, leaving him a stroke back along with Bill Haas (65), who birdied five of six holes Nos. 11 through 16 but missed a 6-foot putt on the par-3 17th.

Australia's Marc Leishman (68), Sweden's Fredrik Jacobson (67) and three-time champion Justin Leonard (69) finished at 13 under.

Driscoll was an afterthought at 5 under when the final round began, eight strokes behind Johnson and his group that included Goydos and Leonard. After wrapping up his 62, he had to wait more than an hour for Johnson to finish his round.

It was worth the wait, but it didn't last long.

Johnson quickly won it with a 6-iron approach to set up his winning putt on the par-4 18th. Driscoll's birdie attempt from 27 feet rolled 2 feet wide.

"You want to put the pressure on your opponent. There's no doubt about it," Johnson said. "It's not like he hit a bad shot. He hit 20-plus feet. He hit a good putt. So it just kind of

went my way."

Driscoll was in position for the biggest comeback in the history of the Texas Open, which dates to 1922 and is the third-oldest event on the PGA Tour. Instead, Driscoll settled for only his third top-10 finish since a runner-up effort in the 2005 Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

"When you get that close to a win and that close to going to Augusta and going to Hawaii for the first tournament of the year, it's a little disappointing," said Driscoll, who has conditional status on the tour after finishing 141st on the money list last year. Goydos briefly topped a

crowded leaderboard with a 13-foot birdie putt on the par-4 16th before falling back on the last two holes, putting the 44-year-old and sympathetic favorite out of the running. Playing four months to the day his former wife died, Goydos' final flaw was a muffed chip shot to a measly 7 feet on 18, denying him a spot in the playoff.

Goydos, who started the round

two strokes back, led after 36 and was eyeing his first tour victory since 2007.

"For 70 holes I did really good," Goydos said. "Didn't hit a good putt on 17 and didn't hit a good shot on 18."

Johnson is the first repeat winner at La Cantera since Leonard in 2000 and 2001.

Next year, the tournament will move to a Greg Norman-designed TPC course. □



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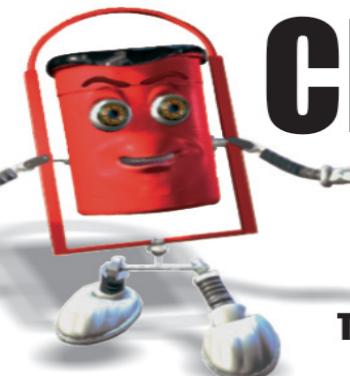
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Roger Federer from Switzerland, left, displays his trophy from Spain's Crown Prince Felipe, right, after winning his match against Rafael Nadal from Spain, during the Madrid Open Tennis at the Caja Magica, Madrid, Sunday May 17, 2009.

Associated Press

PAUL LOGOTHETIS

MADRID (AP) — Roger Federer showed he's recovered from his emotional Australian Open loss to Rafael Nadal by beating the top-ranked

Spaniard 6-4, 6-4 on Sunday to win his first title of the season at the Madrid Open. Second-ranked Federer broke a sluggish Nadal once in both sets before firing his sixth

Federer beats Nadal in Madrid

ace of the match for his 15th Masters Series title on the second match point. Federer also won here in 2006 when the event was played on indoor hard court.

"There are no positives, there is little to analyze," said Nadal, the 2005 champion. "He broke and broke and I went home." It was only Federer's second victory over his top rival on clay with the other coming at the Hamburg final two years ago. The victory also ended Federer's five-match losing run to Nadal, a streak in which he lost finals at Roland Garros, Wimbledon and Australia.

Federer called his first win over Nadal since the 2007 Masters Cup "very satisfying." Especially after being left in tears in February following his defeat to Nadal at Melbourne. "I thought I took all the right decisions today. In the end it was a perfect game for me," the Swiss player said after

NBA PLAYOFFS

Continued from Page B10

Trevor Ariza scored 15 points while Bryant and Andrew Bynum had 14 apiece. Bryant added five assists and seven rebounds.

Brooks was held to 13 points and Luis Scola to 11 for Houston. Ron Artest (seven points) and Shane Battier (three) were non-factors.

"I think we learned that if we play hard every night and we're ready to compete, starting on the defensive end, we're going to give ourselves

drawing even with Nadal in Masters titles. "(You) stay positive and I did. I got the win I needed badly."

Earlier, top-ranked Dinara Safina of Russia beat Danish teenager Caroline Wozniacki 6-2, 6-4 to win the women's title.

Federer ended Nadal's 33-match clay winning streak going into the French Open, where the Spaniard is going for a fifth straight title.

"I don't think he's going to take any damage away from this," Federer said. "I'm sure he's going to be rock solid in Paris again."

Nadal sounded so after only a fifth loss in his last 155 matches on clay.

"To me, this tournament has nothing to do with Paris. This tournament is practically another surface compared to Paris," said Nadal, who was troubled with the odd bounces and faster pace brought on

a chance," Gasol said. "Hopefully we're going to carry that into the next round and to a championship. That's something we need to do consistently, no matter what, no matter where we play."

This one was practically over before the fans settled into their seats.

With Houston missing its first 12 shots, Los Angeles used two Houston turnovers and a blocked shot in racing to an 8-0 lead. Gasol blocked a shot by Scola and fed Bryant for a layup. Scola's turnover led to

by higher altitude. "The conditions favored him more than me."

Only Ivan Lendl and John McEnroe have met in more finals — 20 — as the pair played for a 16th time with Nadal still holding a comfortable lead at 11-5.

Nadal leads the overall series 13-7 as the pair played in front of Nadal's biggest supporters for the first time.

"Sorry to spoil the party," Federer told the crowd from Manolo Santana center court. The party never really got started as Federer, who is also the only top-10 player to have ever beaten Nadal on clay, saved two break points before converting his first try in the ninth game.

Federer slapped a forehand winner down the near line to set up the point and scored when Nadal weakly backhanded into net. □

Ariza's tip-in of Gasol's miss. A turnover by Brooks set up Ariza's 3-pointer, forcing Houston to call timeout with 9:32 to go in the quarter.

Houston missed seven shots during the next 2 1/2 minutes, and didn't get on the scoreboard until Brooks made two free throws just more than five minutes in.

"Coming in here for Game 7, we knew they were going to give us their best shot, especially in the first quarter," Battier said. "To be honest with you, we just didn't have energy to match it. Unfortunately, after we got past the first quarter we played them pretty straight up, but the damage had been done at that point."

During one sequence, Odom blocked a shot by Brooks, Bryant ended up with the ball and whipped a crosscourt pass to Ariza for a 3-pointer and a 13-2 lead.

It wasn't until then that the Rockets made their first basket, a layup by Chuck Hayes.

Houston made only 5 of 20 shots in the first quarter, while the Lakers had 17 rebounds, including 12 on defense.

The Lakers were up 22-12 at the end of the first quarter and steadily pulled away. □

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PG-13	STATE OF PLAY	daily: 7:00 matinee:	9:30	late show: 12:00 NEW
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Peruanos no apoyan una reelección de García

LIMA - El 77 por ciento de los peruanos no está de acuerdo con que el presidente del país, Alan García, se presente a la reelección en las elecciones de 2011, según una encuesta a nivel nacional publicada hoy en Lima.

Aunque la Constitución peruana no permite que un presidente sea reelegido de forma inmediata, si la Carta Magna fuera modificada y García se presentara, un gran porcentaje de los peruanos no votaría al actual mandatario.

Así se desprende del sondeo de Ipsos Apoyo realizado con una muestra de 1.000 personas de 16 ciudades de Perú, y que hoy fue publicado por el diario El Comercio.

Este rechazo, según señaló el analista político José Luis Sardón a dicho diario, se debe a "la tremenda desconfianza de los peruanos", ya que existe "un temor a que se vaya a abusar del poder". La encuesta también señala que la aprobación de García entre los peruanos se sitúa en el 30 por ciento, lo que supone una bajada de 2 puntos porcentuales respecto a abril y de 4 con relación a marzo, cuando alcanzó el 34 por ciento, la valoración más alta desde mayo de 2008.

Entre los demás políticos del Gobierno, el primer ministro, Yehude Simon, es el que obtiene más aprobación, con un 35 por ciento.

Sobre el nivel de confianza que inspiran a los peruanos sus políticos, el que sale mejor parado es el alcalde de Lima, Luis Castañeda, que recibe el beneplácito del 40 por ciento de los encuestados.

Le sigue la líder fujimorista Keiko Fujimori, con un 21 por ciento, y la presidenta del Partido Popular Cristiano Lourdes Flores, con un 20 por ciento.

A la pregunta de cuáles son los tres principales problemas del país en la actualidad, los encuestados señalaron al desempleo (41 por ciento), la corrupción (39 por ciento) y la delincuencia (38 por ciento). EFE □

Segundo caso de influenza AH1N1 en Perú

LIMA (Reuters) - Perú reportó en menos de tres días su segundo caso de influenza A H1N1 en un ciudadano peruano que llegó de Estados Unidos y cuya evolución es favorable, informó el domingo el Ministerio de Salud.

A Perú se suman con casos de esta gripe en la región latinoamericana Chile -que anunció su primer caso el domingo-, Colombia, Brasil, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Argentina, Ecuador, Cuba, Guatemala, Panamá y México. En México se han

confirmado 2.895 casos, incluidas 66 muertes, Estados Unidos ha informado 4.714 casos, incluyendo cinco muertes, mientras que Canadá confirmó 496 contagios y Costa Rica nueve, ambos con una muerte cada uno.

El virus ha causado la muerte a más de 70 personas en el mundo e infectado a 8.480 en casi 40 países con casos ratificados de la cepa, conocida inicialmente como gripe porcina, según datos de la Organización Mundial de Salud. □



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